A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under correspondence with the Director of Public Instruction.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction has recommended the proposal ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The matter is being considered by the Director of Public Instruction."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I ask when his report is expected ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot say, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know when the application was made ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Notice, Sir."

Local Boards

Communal representation in the Trichinopoly District Board.

*1649 Q.—Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what is the relative nominated strength of Muhammadans, Indian Christians and depressed classes in the District Board of Trichinopoly ;

(b) how many Indian Christians have been nominated to the District Board, Trichinopoly, since 1924 ; and

(c) how many Muhammadans, Indian Christians and depressed classes have been elected to the District Board, Trichinopoly, during the period 1921—1928 ?

A.—(a) One in each of the communities of Muhammadans, Indian Christians and depressed classes out of the sanctioned strength of 52 (10 nominated and 42 elected).

(b) Two.

(c)

Muhammadans	...	7
Indian Christians	...	3
Depressed classes	...	Nil.

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" May I ask whether the one Indian Christian lady, who was nominated, was nominated to represent ladies or Indian Christians ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I cannot distinguish an Indian Christian as a lady or as a gentleman. "

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" No, Sir. The practice is for one lady to be nominated for each local body, especially the District Board. Therefore I wish to know whether she was nominated to represent ladies or Indian Christians as a community."

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" To take care of the interests of both."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister thinks that appointing one Indian Christian to represent both these classes of people is satisfactory, considering the fact that there are 10 nominated and 42 elected members on the Board ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"The hon. Member will see that there are already three elected Indian Christians on the Trichinopoly District Board."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"The answer to clause (c) is that three Indian Christians were elected to the District Board during the period of seven years, i.e., from 1921 to 1928, not that they are there now . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is arguing."

Mr. S. ARPUDASWAMI UDAYAR :—"I am referring to answer (c)."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I ask if there are three Indian Christians at present?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"There is only one Indian Christian on the Board now . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is not a Member of the Government and cannot give information."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know for whom these ten nominated seats are intended?"

The hon. Dr P. SUBBARAYAN :—"For Christians, Muhammadans and other minority communities."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—"May I know who are the other minority communities?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—"That is a matter of opinion."

Representation of Muslims in the Hosur Taluk Board.

*1650 Q.—Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government was at any time approached by representatives of the public to fix the number of members to be elected or nominated from each taluk included in the Hosur Taluk Board;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to ensure adequate representation of Muslims to the Hosur Taluk Board and if so, what steps and when; and

(c) whether any Muslim has hitherto been elected to the Taluk Board of Hosur by any constituency and if so, when and how many?

A.—(a) No such representations are traceable.

(b) Under section 9 (4) (b) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920; the nomination of the members of Taluk Boards vests in Presidents of District Boards and the Government have no jurisdiction in the matter.

(c) Two; and the Government have no information as to when they were elected and by what constituency.

Public libraries maintained by local bodies.

*1651 Q.—Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and if so, which of the local bodies maintain any public libraries;